

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the final Office Action mailed November 29, 2005. Claims 1-32 were examined in the Office Action. Claims 1-10 and 31-32 are allowed. Claims 11-30 are rejected. Claims 12, 13, 18, 19, 27, and 29 are objected to, but are allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 12, 27, and 29 have been canceled and rewritten in independent form as amended claims 11, 20, and 28. No new claims have been added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and examination in view of the following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claims 11, 14-17, 20, 21, 23, 25, 26 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yim et al., U.S. Patent Application No. 6,580,727 B1 (hereinafter Yim) in view of the Article “Efficient Implementation of Semaphores in Controller Area Networks” by Cena et al., Industrial Electronics, IEEE Transactions on, Volume 46, Issue 2, April 1999, PP417-428 (hereinafter Cena). Claim 11 has been amended as allowable rewritten claim 12, Claim 20 has been amended as allowable rewritten claim 27, and claim 28 has been amended as allowable rewritten claim 29. Thus, claims 11, 20, and 28 are allowable over Yim in view of Cena.

Claims 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yim and Cena as applied to claims 11, 14, 17, 20, 21, 23, 25, 26, above, and further in view of Tang et al., U. S. Patent Application No. 6,885,672 B1 (hereinafter Tang). Claim 25 has been canceled. Dependent claims 22, 23, 24, and 26 are allowable at least for the reasons described above regarding independent claims 11 and 20, and by virtue of their dependency upon independent claims 11 or 20. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection of dependent claims 22, 23, 24, and 26.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(404) 954-5041

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Murrell W. Blackburn
Reg. No. 50,881

